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THE Gateway

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University of Nebraska at Omaha

Friday, May 1, 1987



Photo by Akitoshi Kizaki

New kid on the block

The Lab Sciences building, currently under construction on the west end of campus, is scheduled for completion June 1. William Ross, Director of the Physical Plant Construction Services, said personnel will begin moving into the new building just after commencement. Fall classes have already been scheduled in the building. For a look back at the UNO Campus, see pages 8 and 9.

Contractor removes asbestos from Arts & Sciences

By TIM McMAHAN
Staff Reporter

Contractors began removing asbestos from the boiler room in the basement of Arts and Sciences Hall yesterday, said Mike Miller, manager of maintenance and utilities services at UNO.

The asbestos removal should take about a week to complete, he said. The boilers are also being removed as part 1A of the planned renovation of the building.

Asbestos, used to insulate pipes and sprayed on structural materials to protect them against fire, is a fibrous mineral that is now believed to cause cancer.

The removal contractor is Anderson Excavating and Demolition, an Omaha firm. Also hired as a third party contractor was Asbestos Management Incorporated, which will be responsible for monitoring the air conditions in the building, Miller said. The third party's job is to make sure the removal contractors follow all the correct removal procedures, he said.

"The biggest part about any job like this is the set up," Miller said. "Everything in the room is covered in two layers of plastic. They seal off the room and create 'negative air,' which means the hook up of a three-stage filter that is 99.97 percent efficient,

to prevent any contamination outside the room. They will thoroughly wet the asbestos areas, remove it and bag it up," Miller said.

All workers will have to go through a decontamination chamber where they have to shower and change their clothes before leaving, Miller said.

The boilers are being removed to make way for hot water circulating pumps, part of the new water heating system, Miller said.

Money for the project is coming from state funds specifically allocated for the project, and from the UNO physical plant's operating budget, said Dave Irvin, a manager in the facilities planning office.

The annexes on the east side of the campus all have asbestos in them, Irvin said. The buildings presently are scheduled to be removed sometime in the future.

"We're hoping there will be interest by some people to take them off our hands. If they take them in one fell swoop, if they don't dismantle them, they won't have to worry about the asbestos, because it's encapsulated. If they decide to take the buildings apart, they will have to remove the asbestos," Irvin said.

"There are some ceilings that were originally sprayed in a

few of the classrooms in Arts and Sciences that now have drop ceilings in them," Miller said, but the only way that asbestos would be a health hazard is if it's disturbed.

"As long as it's left alone and people are not poking it or rubbing their hands against it, then there's no fiber release and no potential danger," Miller said.

The asbestos will be removed from classrooms during renovation phases 1B and 2. Approval for funding of phase 1B is expected in May, and the project could begin as soon as next year, Irvin said.

Some classrooms will receive new ceilings, light fixtures and carpeting. A new heating system will be added to the building, and the bathrooms will be remodelled, Miller said. Also part of the first phase is the restoration of the cupola on top of the building, he said.

Several UNO buildings still contain asbestos, including the basement of Allwine Hall, Irvin said. "Eventually all the buildings will have it removed. We have plans to have people on our staff qualified to remove asbestos," Irvin said.

"We don't have it any place now where it's a danger to anyone. All that we have now is encapsulated, so no one can get into it," Irvin said.

Financial pinch squeezes out UNO track

By TERRY O'CONNOR
Sports Editor

The UNO women's track team, derailed by budget cuts two years ago, will cease functioning as a varsity sport at the end of the 1987 outdoor season.

Connie Claussen, the UNO women's athletic director, said the decision to phase the sport out rather than drop it immediately was made in consideration of the athletes already in the program.

"When they cut \$500,000 from the athletic program two years ago," Claussen said, "we had to make some tough decisions. We don't like to drop a sport, but when you lose half a million dollars, you have to cut somewhere."

The track team cost about \$10,000 a year

to run, Claussen said. To retain Division II status, UNO will continue to offer cross country as a women's varsity sport.

"We've got some fine athletes in the track program," Claussen said. "Last year was supposed to be the final year, but (UNO Coach) Bob Condon wanted to keep it going for the seniors."

UNO junior Sheila Brown, a three-time qualifier for nationals, said Condon kept the team going with his presence and his fund raising.

"Most of us decided not to transfer because of Bob," Brown said. "He really has gotten a lot of loyalty from us. We all tried to pitch in and help raise money."

For the past season the track team has footed the bill for gas to meets, food on the road and track meet entry fees. Ordinarily the

university pays these bills for a varsity sport.

"There's not much community support for a sport like track," Brown said. "People who would contribute the first time around, were not as gung-ho about it the second time. They would start to think of it as just another bill to pay."

"We've done our best," Brown said. "Now I think we're all kind of tired of fighting it."

Claussen said she admired how the athletes handled all the adversity. "There's no scholarship money going to them," she said. "We haven't recruited anybody for the last two years. And they still went out and raised money. It got to the point where it was piecemeal."

See Track

(continued on page 14)

Commencement

UNO spring commencement will be held Saturday, May 9, at 10 a.m. in the Rich House.

More than 800 students will graduate, including nearly 700 undergraduates and more than 100 graduates.

The commencement speaker will be William Reister, president of Wayne State College and vice chairman of the American Association of State Colleges.

Commencement ceremonies will begin at 9 a.m. with a registration session for graduates and their families.

The main ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. with the playing of the national anthem.

Comment

So long everyone

"And so it ends. After months of hitting ourselves over the head, the Gateway staff is busy working on the final edition of the spring.

I'm proud of my staff. They always seemed to pull it together in time each week. Not bad for an inexperienced staff that had to compete with a lot of Gateway ghosts: Dan Prescher, John Malnack, Karen Nelson...

As I leave, I know that the staff has worked hard to report the news in a fair and interesting manner.

We agonized till three in the morning on our two deadlines each week. We cried and screamed when we saw the finished paper and found it full of typos.

The result of this hard work is apparent. In my opinion, the Gateway is the best college paper in Nebraska.

Of course, we had our share of problems, too. And despite differences of opinion with members of several student organizations and the administration, I feel good about my term.

I feel that if nothing else this semester, this staff put life back into the paper. Although the staff explored new ways of layout, the paper turned out very good.

I'm sure the next staff will use some of ideas this semester's group came up with. I'm also sure that the next staff will continue to try different things. As always, the Gateway welcomes input from readers. Letters this summer should be addressed to Tammy Coleman, summer editor. Letters dealing with the fall semester should be addressed to the fall editor, Deana Vodicka. The Gateway's address is Annex 26, UNO, Omaha, Neb., 68182.

Of course the Gateway always has openings for students who wish to take a crack at reporting. While not glamorous, it is very rewarding.

So drop by and fill out an application. Tammy Coleman is still looking for a few good columnists, photographers and cartoonists. Not to mention a lot of reporters.

Well, thanks. It's been fun.

—MARK ELLIOTT/Editor



'People need to demand the dream of equal rights'

To be a Negro in this country and be relatively conscious is to be in rage almost all the time — James Baldwin

I am not black. Nor, for that matter, am I white. These are merely arbitrary labels of a pigmentation continuum. That is to say, where does one draw the lines to separate people of various skin tones?

Unfortunately, ours is a world in which one's color (isn't that an absurd word in this context?) brings out the inconsistencies of a society in which all men are not equal. In fact, it is a society in which men and women are conspicuously unequal.

The events in Howard Beach and Forsyth County a couple of months ago are stark reminders of just how little progress has been made regarding civil rights. Isn't it interesting that we continue to refer to efforts to secure



William Head

and improve the quality of life for all people of this nation as "civil rights?" I mean, what is really being sought is the simple achievement of basic human rights. It would, I suppose, be too obviously hypocritical of our government to proclaim a concern for human rights worldwide when, in fact, it is unwilling to address the problem in its own backyard.

At first, it was heartening to hear that the murderers of young Michael Donald in Alabama were caught, and that the KKK, which had di-

rected the murder, was being made to pay for its hideous act. However, any vindication one may have felt was short-lived after realizing that such an atrocity could even occur. Donald's death is both incomprehensible and totally unacceptable! Hell, we don't need a nuclear war, we're destroying ourselves just fine.

Racism is, without a doubt, this nation's most serious problem. Isn't it pitiful that our Justice Department so vehemently campaigned against "Playboy" and "Penthouse" magazines in the name of morality, and it yet avoids any attempt to outlaw organizations like the KKK? Apparently the KKK is protected by the First Amendment, whereas "Playboy" and "Penthouse" are not. Personally, I would rather see our children looking at a woman with staples in her navel than have them listen to the preachings of hate and destruction.

It is a sad commentary that society has made

race an obstacle for achieving security, success and prosperity. Does a black youth from North Omaha have the same opportunities as a white youth from, say, the west side? Ideally, yes. Realistically, no.

Prejudice of any kind only serves to needlessly hinder human progress. Racism is nothing more than the corruption of humanity, which we are all a part of. Therefore, none of us are free until we are all free!

Just trying to get Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday officially recognized turned out to cause a major commotion. Arizona Governor Evan Mecham still refuses to recognize King's birthday as a state holiday. That is crazy! If any man in this nation's history deserves our love and admiration, it is Dr. King. He is as much a founding father as any wig-wearing colonial.

See Equal Rights
(continued on page 3)

Viewfinder

Opinions solicited by Tim McMahan

Q: What did you think of the Gateway this semester?

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Viewfinder this semester



Terressa Thomas, sophomore criminal justice

"They left out a lot of important articles as far as minorities are concerned. When a controversy is going on, both parties should be interviewed and both interviews should be submitted at the same time."



Lisa Powell, junior interior design

"Overall it was OK. Big Max helped people be aware of the newspaper because it was controversial."



Carl Campbell, freshman undeclared major

"What I have read of it I think was fine. It approaches a lot of issues that effect us here at school. It basically does what a school paper is supposed to do."



Donald Wright, visiting instructor communication

"I commend the staff in trying to explore topics outside of the general college community. I don't see the level of controversy on really important topics to the university as I've been used to. I'd like to see some in depth articles on larger, meatier subjects other than parking."



Mike Hansen, senior broadcasting

"It brought up some interesting issues and it got a lot of people to read it. It got students to participate by writing letters. I don't know if you can call it good, but it's making people more aware."

Part II

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"He said if I didn't do it,
he wouldn't love me anymore."



"AND YOU KNOW WHAT? I GOT
angry. It was such a trashy thing to say.
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off a cliff or something.

We didn't have any birth control.
I started out saying it was just the
wrong time.

Then I started thinking it was the
wrong guy.

After he said that, he put on this big
act about it. If he really cared, he'd have let
it drop. He'd have given me time.

I mean, you don't have to be the brain
of the world to know you don't have sex
without protection.

And you sure don't make a baby with
a guy who thinks he can threaten you."

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New company sought to carry student insurance

By TIM McMAHAN
Staff Reporter

Keystone Life Insurance Company, which carried the student insurance offered by UNO, has been placed in receivership by an order of the State Court of Texas.

Under the provisions of the receivership, Keystone is now managed by the United Group Insurance Company, which sells insurance under the name Midwest Insurance Company, said Hewins-Maroney, coordinator of Special Programs at UNO. Keystone will still sell insurance, but not through UNO, she said.

Any and all claims against the company must be filed by Sept. 25, 1987.

"Anyone who has a policy and has a claim is covered. In the state of Texas, they have a fund set up for anyone who has a claim against the company. It's part of the state law," said Barbara Hewins-Maroney said.

The university is looking for other insurance companies to take Keystone's place. "We have an idea in mind for our insurance program, but we'll probably go out for bids. That's the original way we got Keystone. It's the fairest way," Hewins-Maroney said.

"Our goal is to increase the satisfaction of students with the health insurance," Hewins-Maroney said.

"We have a lot of students with medical needs who don't have insurance. We'd like to work on a preferred provider system and tie it in with our health insurance. It's like an HMO (health maintenance organization). We're trying to work with the Medical Center to put one together, but that's down the road a bit," she said.

According to Hewins-Maroney, Joe Davis, assistant vice chancellor of Student Development Services, said a survey was taken last March about the attitudes of students at UNO. The survey revealed that only 6.8 percent of the students interviewed used UNO's health insurance plan. That is a low number compared to a national average of 15 percent, Hewins-Maroney said.

"Of the 6.8 percent, only 41 percent were satisfied with the insurance, compared to a national average on college campuses of 51 percent," she said.

A representative from a Florida insurance company has contacted the university twice, and has even submitted a proposal for a new insurance plan, she said.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Medical Center also have insurance through Keystone. Hewins-Maroney said she was uncertain of the action they were going to take for finding a new insurance provider.

Schools join forces

Grant system 'shows bias'

By SUSAN SKORUPA
College Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Some schools, claiming they are getting shut out of lucrative government research grants, met in Washington last week to try to get some of them.

A group of campus leaders from across the country met here to try to keep the old system of handing out research grants — some \$5.6 billion was distributed in 1984 — from devolving into a chaotic competition between individual colleges around the country.

A number of campuses have grown increasingly impatient with the system, which seems to funnel most of the money to the Johns Hopkins, Stanfords and Massachusetts Institutes of Technology of the world.

One hundred campuses — out of a total of 3,300 in the country — get close to 90 percent of the grants the federal government makes each year.

The government normally gives the money to the National Science Foundation (NSF) to distribute, but cries of NSF favoritism and hopes of getting some money have led some schools in recent years to ask Congress for grants directly, without going through the NSF first.

One observer called it a "highly biased" system that excludes many small colleges.

The system does tend to favor the same universities year after year.

In a report released just before the campus leaders convened in Washington, the General Accounting Office (GAO) found the same few universities still are getting most of the money.

Sixteen of the 20 universities that received the most federal research money in 1967 also got the most federal research money in 1984.

the GAO found.

"That NSF listing is not completely illogical," said Charles Kaars, director of sponsored programs at the State University of New York at Buffalo, which came in 98th on the NSF's list of top 100 grant winners.

"Schools that are successful at this have the top-quality people, who attract more top people. Once a department is established, it's very competitive in getting federal research money."

Richard Benhoff of the NSF argues all its decisions are based on "merit," and that the money goes to the schools that have the "ability to best conduct research."

Others agree the top schools get the most money because they are the top schools.

"History speaks for itself," said Joe Banks, of the Southern Regional Education Board, an advocacy group for southern colleges and universities.

Banks notes that "Johns Hopkins, for instance, which is the number one school on the list, is well equipped to do applied physics research in a way few others can."

"Most schools in the top 100," Benhoff said, "are also in the top 100 in other surveys that measure science and engineering resources."

But, with money in short supply among most of the other campuses in the U.S., some schools have been less willing in recent years to cede such riches to Johns Hopkins, regardless of how well-equipped it is.

In 1984, for example, Georgetown University, the 100th school on the NSF's list, drew flack from higher ed groups for successfully lobbying Congress to fund a multi-million-dollar energy demonstration project.

Critics feared the project would drain funds

See Grants

(Continued on page 6)

Research grant recipients

WASHINGTON, D.C. (College Press Service) The federal government provided \$5.6 billion to universities for research in 1984, and 96 percent of that money went to the top 100 universities.

The top 20 campuses — an even more elite group — received 42 percent of all federal money spent in universities on research and development; 46 percent of all National Science Foundation (NSF) research money and 44 percent of all National Institutes of Health funds.

Top 20 federal research grant recipients in 1984, followed by their 1967 ranking, were:

1. Johns Hopkins (15); 2. MIT (1); 3. Stanford (7); 4. University of Washington (13); 5. Columbia University (3); 6. Univer-

sity of Southern California (8); 7. Cornell (11); 8. University of California-San Diego (not in top 20 in 1967); 9. University of Wisconsin-Madison (10); 10. Harvard (4); 11. Yale (17); 12. University of Michigan (2); 13. University of Pennsylvania (14); 14. University of California-Berkeley (6); 15. University of California-San Francisco (not in top 20 in 1967); 16. University of Southern California (not in top 20); 17. University of Minnesota (12); 18. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (5); 19. University of Chicago (9); 20. Pennsylvania State University (not in top 20).

New York University, Duke, the University of Maryland and Princeton all made the top 20 in 1967, but not in 1984.

The NSF ranks the schools by the amount of money they received.

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**Layaways & Bankcards
Welcome**

Job offers depend on major, economy and recruiters

By LISA JEAN SILVA
College Press Service

The spring hiring season on campus seems to be spotty, depending on students' majors and on local economies, college placement officials and corporate recruiters say.

At Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa., for example, placement office director Eugene Seeloff said the best advice he can give job-hunters in the Class of '87 is: "pray."

But at the University of Chicago, on-campus recruiting is "up 300 percent from last year," said placement director Muriel Stone.

While there are no comprehensive figures yet on how the Class of '87 is doing in finding jobs, the College Placement Council — with 164 campus placement offices across the country — found the total number of job offers made to bachelor's candidates by January 1, 1987, was 4,185, down from 6,566 a year earlier.

At Chicago, Stone notes accounting and engineering majors seem to be having the best luck finding jobs there.

Engineers are less in demand out west, says Gale Kenney, a recruiter for Lockheed Shipbuilding and Aerospace Co. in Seattle.

"I'm in a decline mode, laying off people," Kenney said. "I wouldn't have to hire for another two years even if (Lockheed) got a (government) contract."

Kenney said Lockheed and other West Coast companies no longer win government contracts because "our labor rates are too high. We can't bid competitively since we pay an average of three dollars more an hour" than do eastern companies.

So he's done "zero" recruiting in recent years, Kenney said.

At the nearby Oregon Institute of Technology, placement director Ted Dobson said recruiting at the Klamath Falls campus was "almost identical to last year. The number of actual hires seems to be up."

"It has something to do with the business climate. Lots of aerospace companies" recruited on campus, Dobson said, though a few "cancelled appointments if they didn't get (gov-

ernment) contracts."

"Boeing Aircraft 9 which prospered in 1986) is the largest single recruiting company of our students," Dobson said, noting the firm seems less interested in "business tech" majors than in engineers this spring.

The job traffic has made Dobson "cautiously optimistic for this year."

Lehigh's Seeloff has a gloomier forecast. "Students are having a greater difficulty getting the jobs they want as quickly," he said.

"More small companies are recruiting, and they're not set up the same as the Fortune 100 companies. The major employers — IBM, General Electric — have reduced needs."

And, Seeloff observes, hiring takes longer. The recruitment process "is getting stretched out. I don't know exactly what's driving it."

Though Lehigh is a major engineering school, the engineering market is "soft right now," while the business market "held steady by accounting. There's more activity from banks," Seeloff said.

Louisiana State University MBA candidate

Suzanne Hautot, for example, was offered a credit analyst job by MBank in Dallas, Tex., for \$28,000 a year.

Though she's fairly certain she'll take the job, Hautot said "I'm still going on some other office visits" before making up her mind.

The current recruiting season at LSU, stuck amid the state's depressed energy industry, is about the same as 1986's, said Placement Center Director Frank Carney.

"The number of organizations coming to campus in the fall is almost exactly the same as last year — 200, up from 199."

Still, "hiring is a little slower," Carney said. Engineers, he said, are still the most popular majors among employers recruiting on campus, followed by computer science majors and business majors.

Lehigh's Seeloff doesn't think conditions will improve soon. "There are indeed difficulties ahead."

"There are tens of thousands of hiring companies in this country that may not recruit on campuses at all," Seeloff said.

Grants awarded to same schools over and over

Grants

(Continued from page 4)

from the pool of research grants the NSF distributes.

But a spokesman for another northeastern college calls the NSF's traditional peer-review system "a good-old-boy" network that cuts smaller schools out of competition.

"Once a project goes through the peer-review process, you can feel fairly confident it will go to one of the top 20 schools," said the spokesman, who asked to remain anonymous.

"Last year, we were accused by other schools of going beyond the peer review process, and it almost cost us the research money we already had. It's a highly biased process, and we're just trying to get our share."

But to schools among the top 20 grant getters, such direct lobbying smacks of "pork-barrel politics" that will do "serious and lasting damage to the nation's research enterprise," said Arthur Sussman of the University of Chicago.

Sussman was among the panel members who

met in Washington to concoct ways to spread research grants among more campuses.

The panel suggested top grant providers like the Pentagon, the NSF and the National Institutes of Health conduct regular competitions for new buildings each year.

"The federal government," SUNY-Buffalo's Kaars said, "needs to say, 'we want to see this facility built, and we're taking bids on the project.' Quite often, such a system would see that facility built at one of the top 20 schools, but they would make the best use of it."

The panel, commissioned by several higher education lobbying associations, also suggested college lobbyists should encourage schools to accept some rating system by which Congress can screen their requests for funds.

Anything would be better than a chaotic system of individual colleges lobbying in Congress on their own, Kaars said.

"Direct lobbying is a worrisome problem, especially for building research facilities," he said. "Some places don't have the staffs to support the facilities they want to build."

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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Review

'Empire's' main topic is 'sex, sex and more sex'

By ELIZABETH TAPE
Staff Reviewer

"The Decline of the American Empire" has been almost universally well received, a huge success at the Toronto Film Festival last September, and an Academy Award Nominee for Best Foreign Film. The film has some thoughts to offer, but it goes about sharing them in a bizarre and unpleasant manner.

With constant cross-cutting and frequent flashbacks, the film introduces us to nine adults (four women and five men), who interact in a complex interweaving of associations. Of the four women, three are involved in activities at a university, and the fourth is the innocently content wife of a professor. Of the five men, three are professors, one a student, and the occupation of the fifth is unclear.

The film opens on a promising note. An extended tracking shot down a vast corridor at first appears to follow a roller skater, then continues along its own course to the end of the hall as we are introduced to two of the women who will be main characters. One interviews the other about her recent book,

which examines happiness in contemporary society and includes her theory about the declining "American Empire." She suggests that a single-minded quest for easy happiness might be related to such a decline. The overall meaning of her comments, though important to the film, is difficult to grasp.

The remainder of the film comprises a seemingly interminable series of conversations amongst these nine adults, involving (it seemed at the time) every conceivable combination and permutation of characters: possible, therefore totalling an excruciatingly large number of conversations. Some wordy films have enormous merit, such as "My Dinner With Andre," which is 110 minutes of a dinner conversation with two characters sitting at a table. But in "Decline," the discussions generate overwhelming ennui and annoyance.

The overriding topic is sex: sex, sex and more sex. Not relationships, not human interactions, just exacting details of one sexual foray after another, both from the women and from the men. Many of the conversations go nowhere, and hearing them go on repeatedly about that topic becomes dull and annoying. Although the men are far and away the more persistent "adulterers," the women's encounters have not offered them much more meaning than the men's.

None of the characters offers much moral fiber; each seems

relatively lost and confused about how to live a life which she or he will find satisfying, and perhaps this lack of a moral center contributes to the disturbing nature of the film.

The men's behavior is disgusting, as they glorify their frequent, meaningless sexual activities, such as stopping at a house of prostitution on the way to a mistress; and as they compare techniques of lying to spouses or significant others. When one man's constant philandering is revealed to his naive wife, his response to her devastation and desire to communicate with him is to drown himself in sleeping pills. He also instructs her not to cry about it.

The film does not necessarily condone such behavior. In fact, the men appear sad and insecure in the end, but their lack of real commitment to the women with whom they are involved in serious relationships is angering. The film strives to reserve judgement on the many different sexual practices it describes. However, these sexual practices include violent sado-masochism — with the woman as masochist — and free-wheeling promiscuity, both homosexual and heterosexual. In a time of AIDS (which is mentioned in the film), such a tack creates uneasiness. We learn, for example, that Claude, the homosexual amongst

See Empire

(continued on page 11)

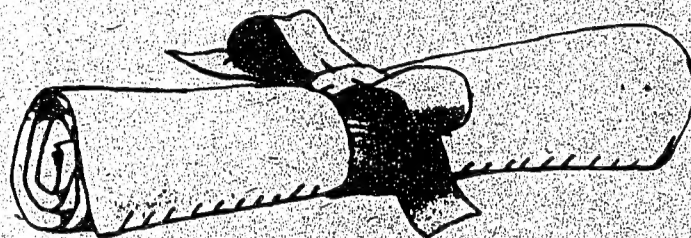
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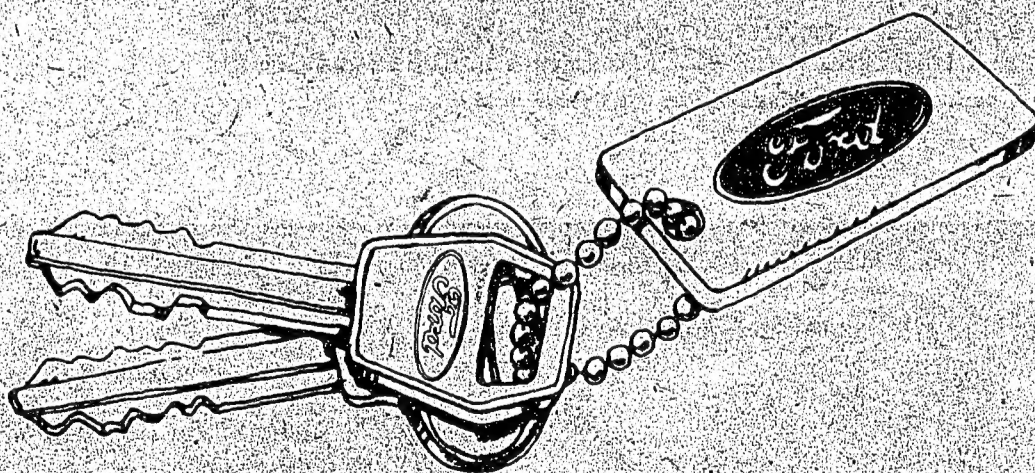
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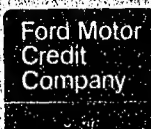
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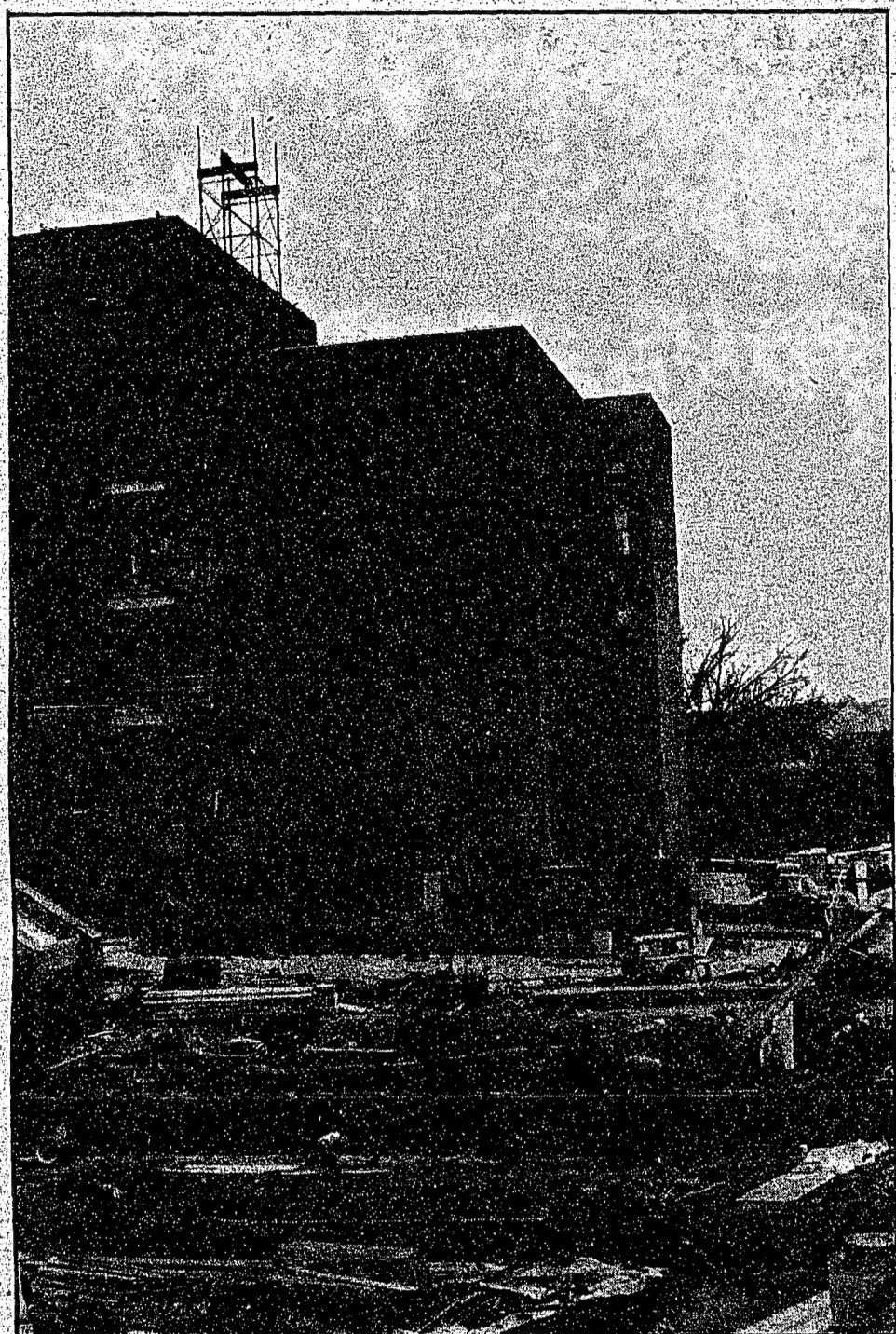
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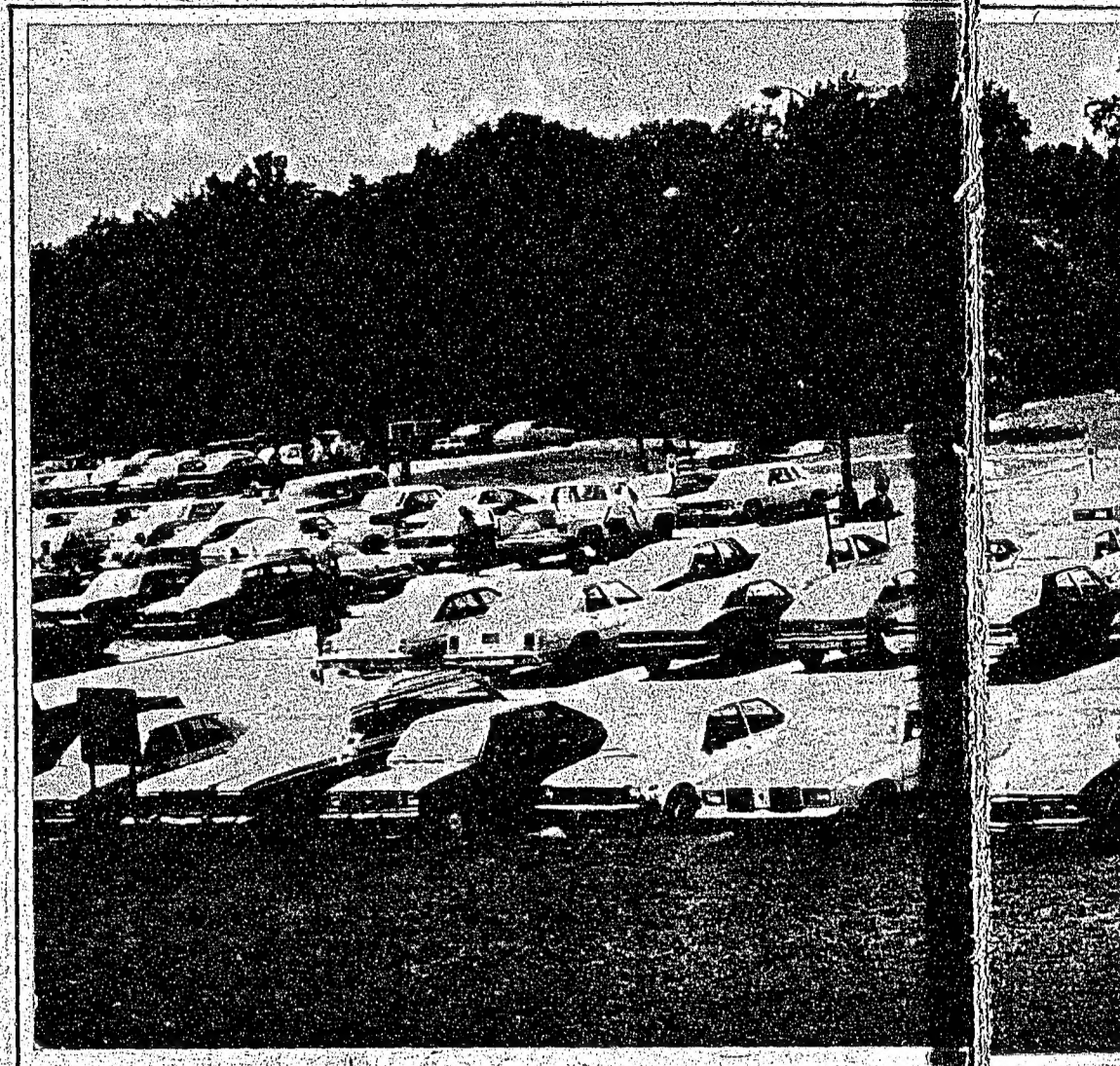
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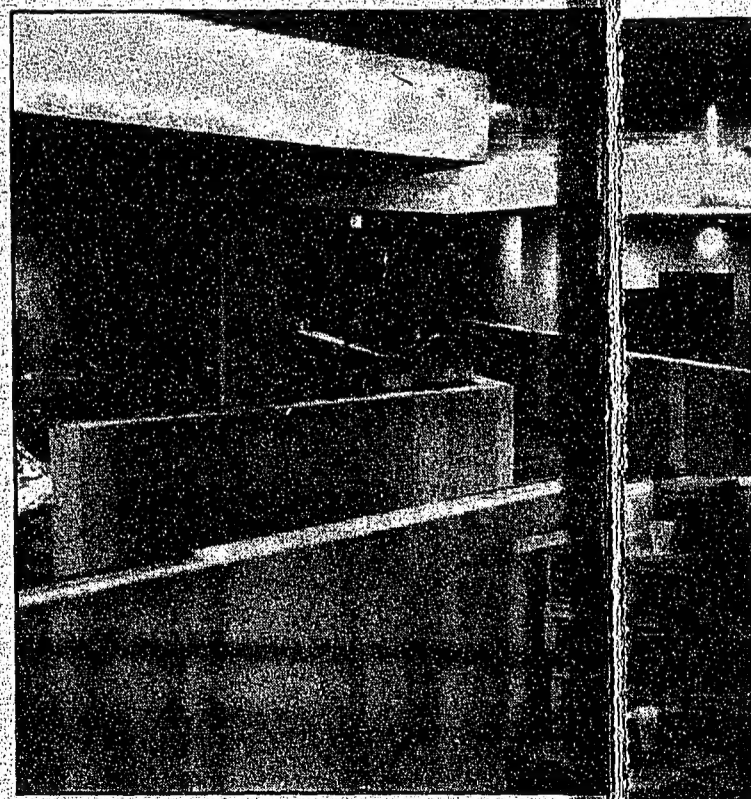
The College of Business Administration Building was finished in 1975.



The University Library marked the campus boundary before westward expansion.



Members of the 'Save the UNO 21' Committee protested proposed cutbacks to the UNO faculty during the fall of 1983.

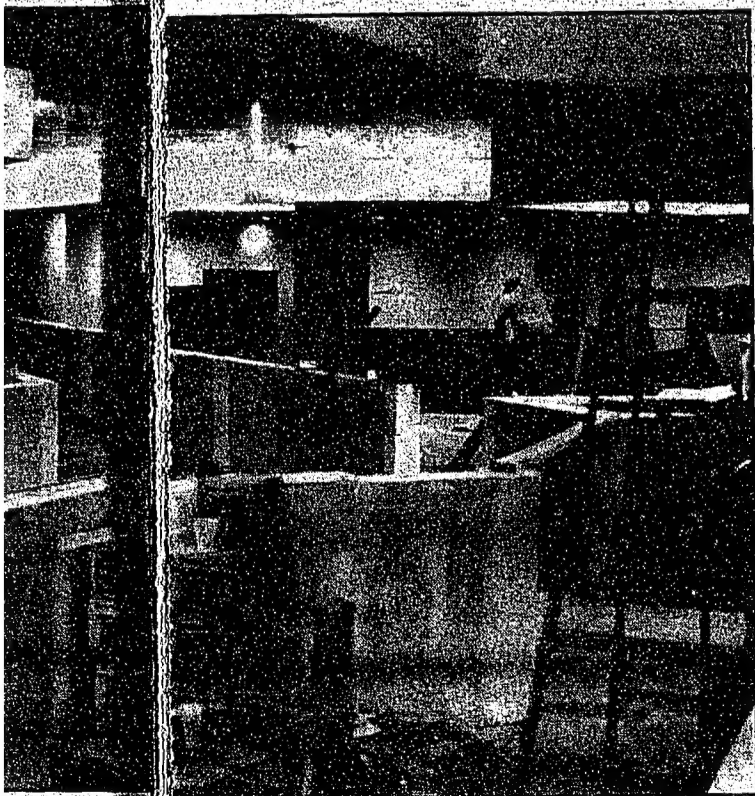


The Maverick Room in the Student Center was remodeled during the summer of 1983.

photos show campus as it was



Construction crews worked for one year before completing the parking garage in January 1986.



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All aboard. UNO abandoned its shuttle service to Ak-Sar-Ben when the parking garage was completed.

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Professor as Jut Jaw

A 'lighthearted approach' encourages learning

By VICTORIA PETERSON
Contributing Writer

"I began writing, purely and simply, to express myself," said Bruce Johansen, associate professor of communication.

This creative outlet was how Johansen entered the world of journalism, he said. "I was never good verbally," he said. "I was very, very shy."

Johansen said he began stuttering when he was young, but exactly how, he is not sure. "I remember vaguely," he said. "I

Profile

think it had something to do with moving. My father was in the Coast Guard, and every few years your whole world would change. We went from the Philippine Islands to the East Coast. We lived in Puerto Rico and elsewhere," he said. "For a kid, it can be a trauma. I'm not exactly sure how it happened."

His third grade teacher was no help. "She screamed at me," he said. "I think that tended to make it worse. She had no understanding at all."

Some people assumed that he was retarded, he said, "but on the other hand, there were things about me that suggested otherwise. So I think they just might have been confused."

Johansen was born in San Diego in 1950. His father was a

Coast Guard officer and his mother a substitute teacher. While in high school he lived near Seattle, "so when it was See Jut Jaw (continued on page 12)



Photo by Akitoshi Kizaki

Johansen

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'American Empire'

Empire

(continued from page 7)

the men, has been beaten and robbed in his sexual trysts. Furthermore, he is already ill, and though he manifests concern over this situation, he still relishes his late-night rendezvous and covets the young man who has involved one of the women in a sado-masochistic relationship. The characters make jokes about venereal diseases and comment lightly that "disease is part of sex."

These highly intellectual individuals who possess a capability to understand behavior — indeed, they are all historians — remain as lost and confused as anyone else. They talk constantly of their erotic dreams and fantasies and their yearnings and unsuccessful efforts to achieve sexual satisfaction, but all of this protracted talk does not enable them to achieve their goals.

The film offers several interesting approaches. For one, the film provides multiple points of view and multiple narrators. For another, the early scenes present the women in the gymnasium working on their physical prowess while the men, at home in the kitchen, fuss over trout and fresh dough — a switch from the standard situation of past films. However, this twist does not begin to alleviate the distastefulness of much of the film.

The cinematography is pleasing, and the physical setting surrounding the country cottage where much of the action unfolds is lush and beautiful. There are other attractive moments of photography, such as the simple tracking movements in the

house as cameras follow characters from room to room. Another striking vision occurs in the gymnasium as women talk amongst the nautilus machine. The camera creates some intriguing near-superimpositions of two women's faces moving with the machinery. The interspersed of the men's discussions of sexual intimacies with their exacting attention to gourmet cooking is amusing.

The film offers points of view through its characters. It speaks about a loss of dreams and a loss of models for either social or

personal behavior. Some of the extreme repugnance one experiences in the course of the film may be related to its effective presentation of these loathsome characters, which is indeed an important component of its purpose.

When confronted by such an intense exposure to so many abhorrent characters engaged in so much disturbing behavior, it is difficult to assess whether the disagreeable sensation the film leaves is an honest reaction to irritating characters or to a film with unclear intentions.

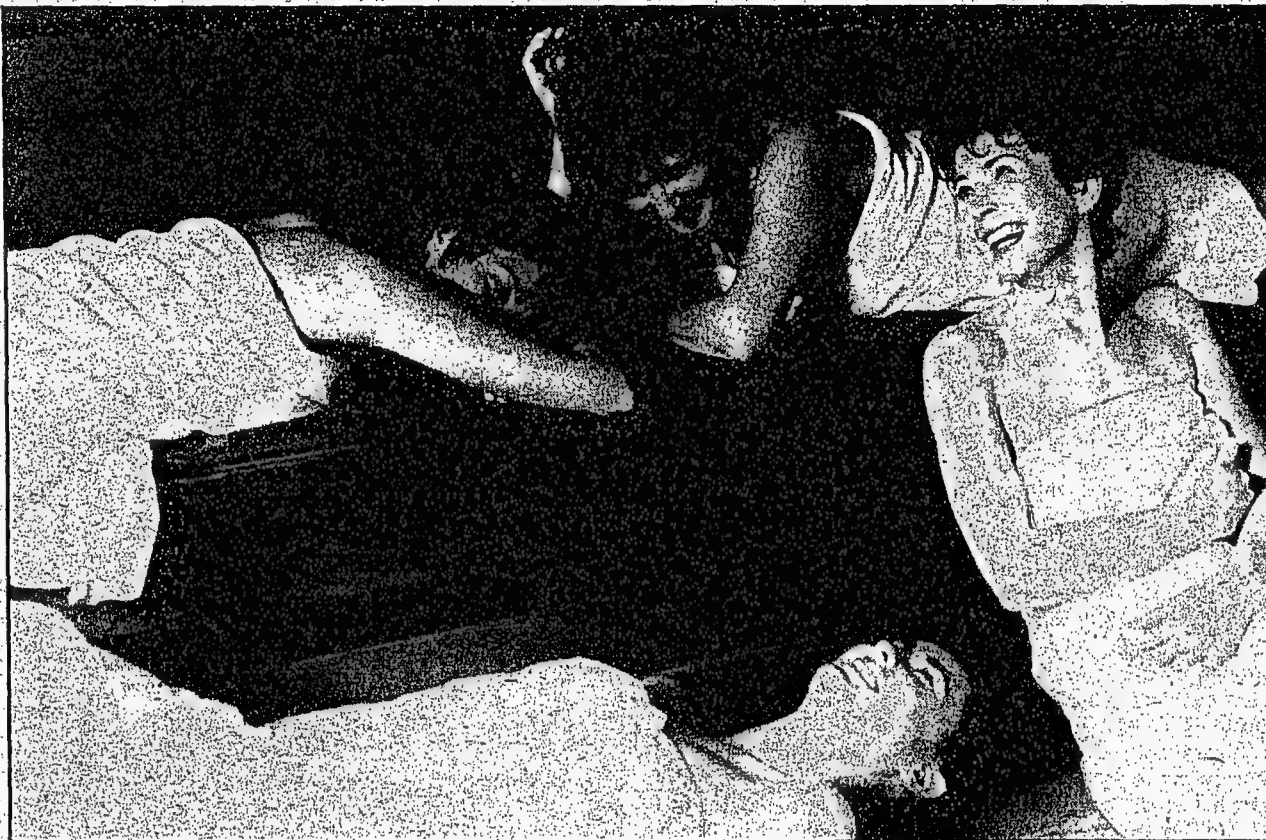


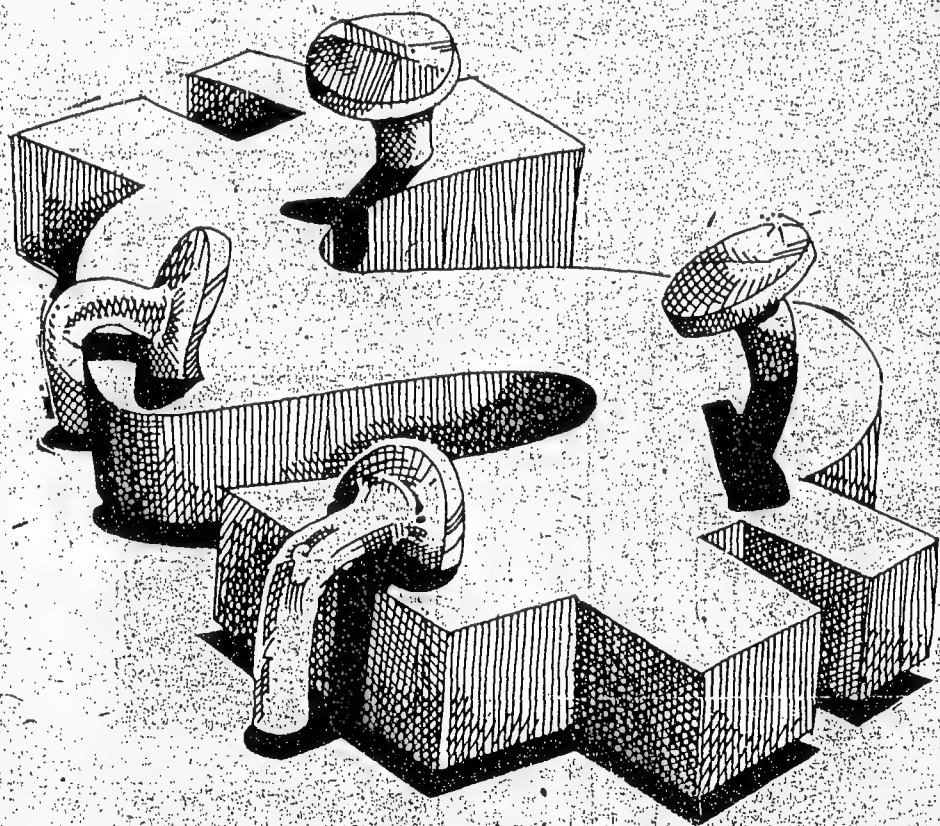
Photo courtesy of Cineplex Odeon

Clockwise from left, Louise Portal, Dominique Michel, Dorothee Berryman, and Genevieve Rioux star in "The Decline of the American Empire."

Wednesday's Answers

ROUTES	OHARA	LAMAR	BATS
INSURE	CANEM	TCAME	ABEE
VIENNA	WESTV	IRGINIA	OLLIA
ETRE	LICTS	NONES	LABELS
AROA	UDDER	SIVA	
PAC	ANET	TRIMS	BASEBALL
ELAPSED	SUAVE	DOLTS	TIO
STILES	DUBLIN	TEXAS	CHOY
TARAS	GAPES	ALLES	BUENA
LION	ALDE	KNITS	SIMNEL
ERI	MADRID	IOWA	TANIST
LITANY	NORMA	RAGING	
OLDEST	LISBON	OHIO	EAR
FRILLS	FATTY	PINS	ROYL
LANES	FINI	AMAZE	BUREN
ACOR	MOSCOW	IDAHO	CONGAS
ILLI	FORTE	OMITS	MORTISE
RESPONDS	BRITH	MINE	AES
LIES	MUSTS	TUNC	
BARELY	CAREA	AERTE	GRAM
OWED	BERLIN	NEWHAMPSHIRE	
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Jut Jaw

Jut Jaw

(continued from page 7)

time to go to college," he said, "I went to college in Seattle. After that, I went to work at the Seattle Times. Between 1968 and 1982, I was in Seattle. I lived a fair part of my life there before I came here. I still go back, because I have all kinds of friends and business interests."

In Seattle he reported on the environment and energy, on agriculture, and on Indians and Latinos, he said. "While doing this I made several friends whom I have known ever since — Indian and Latino friends," he said.

Johansen earned his master's degree from the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication in 1975. While teaching at the University of Washington School of Communications, he completed his doctorate in 1979.

In 1982 he began teaching for UNO's department of communication and began serving on the university publications committee.

In addition to gaining an education and teaching and reporting, Johansen, 37, has written four books, is working on a fifth, and has written portions of four others.

His 1982 book "Forgotten Founders" is being adapted for a film.

His current book intends to expand the scope of "Forgotten Founders," he said. The title is "This New Man, the American Indian: American Indians and the Spirit of Liberty."

This semester we returned to Omaha after eight months in Seattle as associate editor of "La Voz," a bilingual magazine.

It was an earlier assignment of "La Voz" and also by representing Seattle as part of a delegation to its sister city Managua that sent him to Nicaragua in 1985. Although eight days could not provide as much information as one would like, he said, "If you go there, I think you can know more than otherwise. Most of the things that we read in our own press are filtered through other people, people who support and people who oppose the Sandinistas. Also, most of what we see comes in small, shortened news items."

"Before I went, all kinds of people in this country expressed concern for my safety," he said. "It's a country in a state of war, but at the same time you can walk down the street and be safe. I mean, the Nicaraguans are were angry at me at all. They were angry at our government."

Johansen said he went to the Honduran border and saw damage inflicted by the contras. "We had armed escorts, and the last thing that the contras would want to do is to kill a North American."

"La Voz" published a series of articles on Johansen's Nicaraguan experiences in both English and Spanish.

Johansen enjoys writing a variety of ways. "I enjoy, for example, writing newspaper columns," he said. "My favorite style is satire, although it isn't easy to get satire published, unless you're Art Buchwald," he said.

"The most satisfying in terms of looking back in time are the books, because books endure. But they are also very hard work," he said. "I don't tend to enjoy them while I'm writing them. It's tough, whereas a newspaper column I can write in an hour or two." He used a metaphor to describe his writing. "It's the difference between getting in a car and going across town and getting in the same car and going all the way across the country."

A car may come in handy as an illustration, he said, but Johansen does not own one. "I did own a car when I worked at

the Seattle Times up until 1976, but then I sold it." The reason, he said, was that when he started on his doctorate he had to give certain things up. "Before I came here in 1982 I was working in social service agencies for a very small amount of money," he said.

The silver bicycle which often sits in his office is his transportation, except when a Nebraska blizzard or thunderstorm hits. "If it's that bad, I walk," he said. "Or else I get a ride."

Riding his bike gives him needed exercise, he said. "It is also environmentally healthy. I may get a car some day. I'm not saying I won't ever."

During class Johansen's students, may find themselves being reproached by Jut Jaw, a stern "newspaper editor" who may even wear a Seattle Times apron and a cap with a visor. This alter ego, he said, is his attempt to step humorously into the role of authority. The lighthearted approach can also be effective, he said.

Seeing students improve gives him satisfaction, Johansen said.

"I think the most memorable thing about teaching is to see how students have developed," he said. "You keep in mind that it's as much their effort as it is my own."

Johansen said the student evaluations which he solicits on his own furnish some interesting responses. "Some students say it (stuttering) makes taking notes easier," he said. "Some say it tends to keep me from saying too much, from going on and on and on. Some say it takes a certain amount of energy. I have never seen it (stuttering) as positive, but rather something I would rather be without."

Johansen's world-wide perspective is evident from the numerous posters, calendars, maps and artifacts that fill his office walls, and a big newspaper headline of the Omaha Wierd-Hurrah wished a Happy Birthday to Jut Jaw Johansen.

Johansen said he sees the future as a continuation of the past, so he ventured no predictions as to where he will be ten years from now.



And now, it's Miller time

The spring 1987 Gateway staff: From left, Bob "Big Max" Atherton; Mark Elliott, editor; Terry O'Connor, sports editor; Akitoshi Kizaki, photo editor; Sue Perry, assistant advertising manager; Chery Lorraine, copy editor; Tammy Coleman, news editor; Deana Vodicka, feature editor; and Tim Switzer, advertising manager. Thanks to everyone who contributed this semester.

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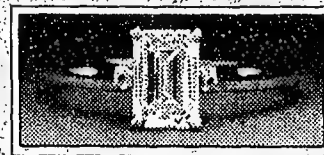
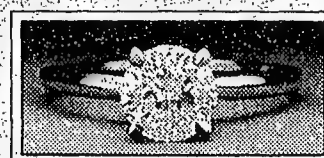
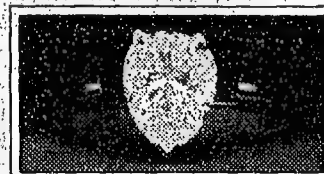
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Letters

'Can't criticize Christ'

To the editor:

I would like to briefly respond to Charles Dragon's response to Michael Steil's letter (Gateway April 24).

I did not have the advantage of reading what Mr. Steil wrote concerning Christian Catholics, but some of the attitudes present in Mr. Dragon's letter I found disturbing.

Justifiably so, Dragon points out some apparent contradictions of not only Christian Catholics but Christians as a whole. He points out the Vatican's denouncement of artificial insemination, the minimizing of tortures committed in the name of Christ, as a common Christian attitude of downplaying the responsibility of deeds in the presence of an all-forgiving God.

Yet I would argue that these contradictory actions by Christian people are not a part of the Christian philosophy. Jesus speaks about how he came to forgive men, to absolve them of sin and guilt for wrongdoing if only they ask for it. Yet he also says that forgiveness is contingent upon repentance not only means being sorry for doing what was wrong, but trying your best to mend your ways. Thus in its purest form, Christianity does stress our adherence to a moral code.

This code, of course, is to love thy neighbor and God and to treat them both accordingly. Neither the denouncement of artificial insemination — a technique which can help childless couples to a fuller life, nor the tortures committed in the name of Christ comport with this ideal.

I guess I'd like to tell Mr. Dragon to not look so much at what some Christians wrongly do in the name of Christ for an accurate portrayal of Christianity, but to look to the actions, attitudes and words of Christ himself. Guaranteed that a no more loving and compassionate "secular humanist" can be found.

Whereas it is clearly possible to criticize Christians by criticizing the pope, Jerry Falwell or Jim Bakker, let alone any number of non-contemporary persons, it cannot be done by criticizing the embodiment of Christianity itself — Jesus Christ. Fault finding cannot be done to one who died for all of humanity.

John Nimmer,
UNO student

Play coverage frustrating

To the editor:

As chairperson of the Department of Dramatic Arts, I would like to express my deep concern that the productions offered by our program get such sporadic coverage in the Gateway. There is, I believe, wider and wider consensus that the work by this production group is setting the standard for regional excitement and quality in the theatre.

It is frustrating, then, to notify the campus paper time and time again of upcoming work, only to be told that there is no one to review the work; no one was assigned, or we have to find our own reviewer. National concerts, records and movies are reviewed continually in the Gateway, but the university's theatre program, from one editor to the next, receives only the most haphazard, even desultory attention.

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Last February, our mainstage production of "Scapin" was not reviewed, and we made the strongest possible appeals that a theatre program simply had to have public assessment of work to achieve and maintain public interest. When we found that there would be no review for "Chicago," we were told to find our own reviewer. We did, and greatly appreciated the person doing this for our department; but apparently the reviewer missed a deadline and again a UNO production went up for two weeks and down with no university newspaper review — an entire semester of mainstage work journalistically ignored.

Apparently the review will be running this week. Understand that this gesture, though appreciated, leaves us still wondering and frustrated. First of all, it will have no bearing on a production which is now entirely past — that's frustrating.

Second, we wonder what we have to do to generate interest at the Gateway in what we believe to be one of the most dynamic, exciting, risky and *public* programs on campus. Why do we have to find our own reviewers? Isn't that a problem of journalistic ethics? Why is there no initiation in this area?

Is it that editors come and go and the tradition of reviewing theatre, common to most competitive newspapers, simply dies out if we don't keep lighting it? Is it that, in fact, few people at the paper in leadership positions care much about the theatre? Do people at the paper just suffer from a recurring bout of forgetfulness?

What do we need to do to attract attention to this program on a regular, systematic basis? Would spray painting "Remember the theatre" on key walls help? Would trying brightly-colored theatrical string around important fingers do it? Do we need to keep returning, hat in hand, year after year, to ask for what most university newspapers are eager to do — publicize their most vibrant cultural activities? Please let us know. We would be glad to furnish the spray paint and string.

Douglas Paterson,
Dramatic Arts chairperson

Letter policy

The Gateway welcomes input from its readers. Letters to the editor must be signed, but those with non de plume may be accepted. All letters should include the sender's address and phone number. (Address and phone number will not be published.) Preference is given to typed letters. All correspondence is subject to editing and available space.

Letters exceeding two (2) typewritten pages will be considered editorial commentary, and are subject to the above criteria.

Next Gateway: June 12

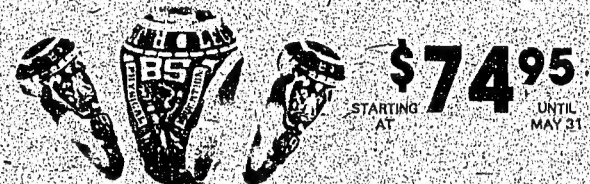
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Sports

UNO track team on its last legs

Track
(continued from page 1)

Claussen said, "And that's not very rewarding to the athlete."

With the outdoor season winding down, the athletes are concentrating on posting qualifying

times for the national meet in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Four Lady Mays appear to have a shot at the Division II competition.

All-American cross country runner Chris Gorman has already qualified. Sherry Crist, an indoor All-American in the 1,500 is considered,

along with Gorman, a good bet to gain All-American status again by finishing in the top eight in nationals.

Kathy Harris is trying to qualify in both the 100- and 200-meter dash. Harris is coming back from a blood disorder that hampered her progress last season.

Brown's best time in the 400 hurdles is still five seconds off the minimum qualifying time. Brown is competing after coming back from a stress fracture in her leg.

"It still bothers me a little," Brown said. "And I've got quite a ways to go. But last year I was running about the same time and I qualified. I just need some good weather with little or no wind. I've still got three meets left to qualify."

Last year Brown hit a hurdle at nationals and her All-American hopes tumbled with her.

"It hurts to hit the ground," Brown said. "But mostly it hurts your pride. Then after you fall, it's scary to try to hurdle again."

The incentive of knowing this is her last year of hurdling drives Brown.

"I've been doing this since fourth grade," Brown said. "Cross country doesn't compare to track. You just don't get the adrenaline rush from cross country competition. I won't transfer, but I will miss track."



Photo by Akiohshi Kizaki

Remembering

A flagpole was dedicated Tuesday to Linda Wierzbicki, a member of the 1975 national champion softball team who was murdered last summer. A plaque will be placed at the foot of the flagpole, located at Claussen-Westgate Softball Field, in her honor.



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A SERVICE OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Chieftains hold key to UNO baseball hopes

By ERIC OLSON
Staff Reporter

The UNO baseball team still has a chance to qualify for the North Central Conference playoffs if it wins three of four games this weekend against Morningside.

Though the Mavericks are only 2-6 in the NCC, they can finish second in the league's South Division.

Division-leading South Dakota State, 7-1, plays four games against 3-5 Augustana this weekend. Morningside plays UNO in a doubleheader in Omaha Friday and in two games at

Sioux City, Iowa, on Saturday.

Three UNO wins would give the Mavs and Morningside 5-7 records, but the Mavs would qualify for the playoffs by virtue of having more wins against the Chieftains. If Augustana wins two or more games against the Jackrabbits, the Vikings would qualify because of their three victories over UNO this season.

The playoffs begin a week from today at the site of the South Division winner, which likely will be South Dakota State at Brookings. There, the first- and second-place teams will meet in a weekend tournament. Mankato State and St. Cloud State are battling for the North

Division championship this weekend.

"I thought we might win more ball games," Gates said, "but we're young. The pitching hasn't been good until the last six games. I'm just hoping the hitting comes together."

It showed signs of coming together last Sunday in UNO's doubleheader sweep over Nebraska Wesleyan. The Mavs collected 15 hits in 2-0 and 4-2 wins over the Plainsmen. Scott Limbo hit RBI doubles in both games. "Those were two key hits," Gates said.

Even more impressive, Gates said, was the

play of right fielder Doug Speckman.

The pitching was good, too. Clark Anderson, 3-3, allowed six hits and struck out three in the first game, and Gary Lane, 2-4, pitched a three-hitter with six strikeouts in the second game. Both Anderson and Lane went the distance.

The wins over Wesleyan raised UNO's season record to 11-24. They tuned up for this weekend's doubleheaders with a game against Creighton Tuesday.

Editor's Note: Eric Olson was recently hired full time by The Omaha World-Herald.

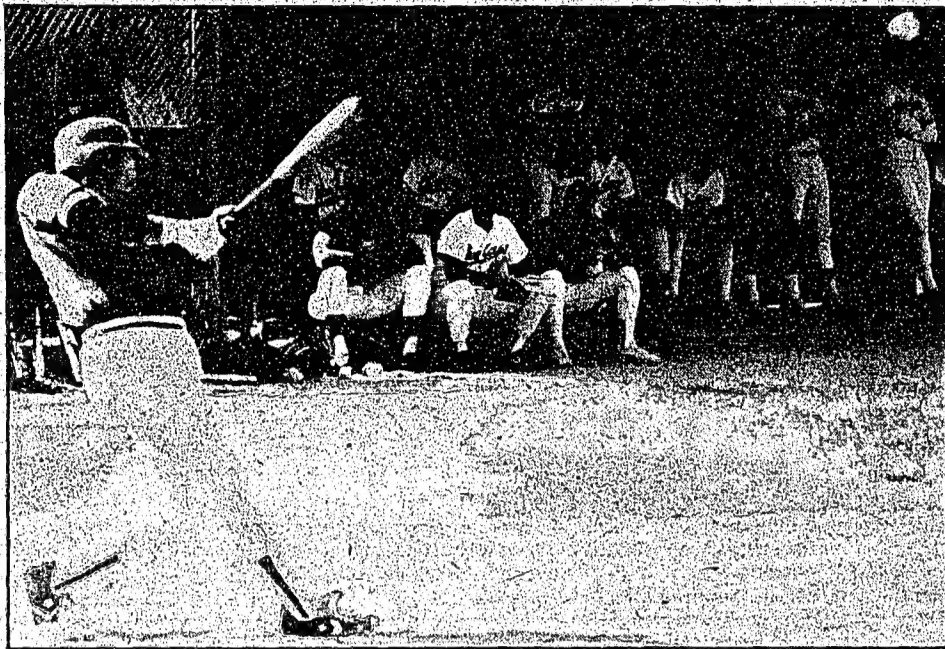


Photo by Akitoshi Kizaki

UNO's Doug Speckman cracks a home run against Creighton in the Mavs' doubleheader Tuesday.

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Sports Look Money spurs meaningless playoff plans

As the school year grinds to a close for another semester, we students should be thankful for the structured nature of our schedules. By contrast, the ridiculous consequences of poor planning are nowhere more evident than in the recently begun playoffs in the National Basketball Association and the National Hockey League.

Witness the silliness of the 21 teams in the NHL. These guys started playing about the time we received our syllabi for the 1986 fall

title in the championship round.

In my view, any more than six or possibly eight qualifiers for the playoffs is too many. They only serve to wear out the players, irritate the fans and make more money for the league. The last reason is the major factor in dragging out these meaningless playoffs after those meaningless regular seasons.

Again, the bottom line gets in the way of common sense to the point out that the two integral factors in each sport, the players and fans, suffer the most. Thank God it's baseball season.

Speaking of baseball, the surprise team of the young season has been the Milwaukee Brewers in the American League East. The red-hot Brew Crew has raced to a 16-1 start as of this writing and haven't lost a home game.

Unfortunately for the Brewers, the Yankees of New York are also in that division. The Yanks have hung close and also have not lost a game at home.

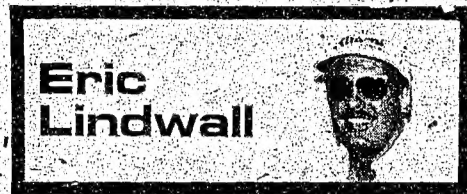
If all stays well for the Yanks, Manager Lou Piniella could become the first skipper to survive the wrath of N.Y. owner/tyrant George Steinbrenner for two straight seasons. In the capitol of job insecurity, no manager has worked for Steinbrenner two consecutive years without a pink slip.

UNO's annual Red-White spring game was played Sunday despite on-field temps that surpassed the century mark. While the heat provided a stern test for players on both sides of

the line, the encouraging point to the Red's 27-10 win over the Whites was offensive power.

Two impressive transfers displayed their talents Sunday before a crowd estimated by UNO officials at 500.

Paul Anderson, an Omaha South graduate and former Nebraska Cornhusker, and Chris Burns, a Navarro, Texas, junior college transfer, both turned in solid performances. This could be the year UNO returns to prominence.



semester. They played a full schedule of games to eliminate five whole teams from the playoffs.

The remaining 16 teams could play as many as 105 additional games before the Stanley Cup is decided in June. Heck, by that time I'll have been sunburned a few times and will probably snicker at the thought of watching an NHL game.

The NBA is wasting almost as much time in its quest for a champion. Although 16 of 24 teams qualify for the playoffs, 14 of them are simply along for the ride — part of the "show," as it were.

Because, as those of use not living in a closet already know, the Los Angeles Lakers and the Boston Celtics are the two premiere teams in the NBA. In all likelihood they will play for the

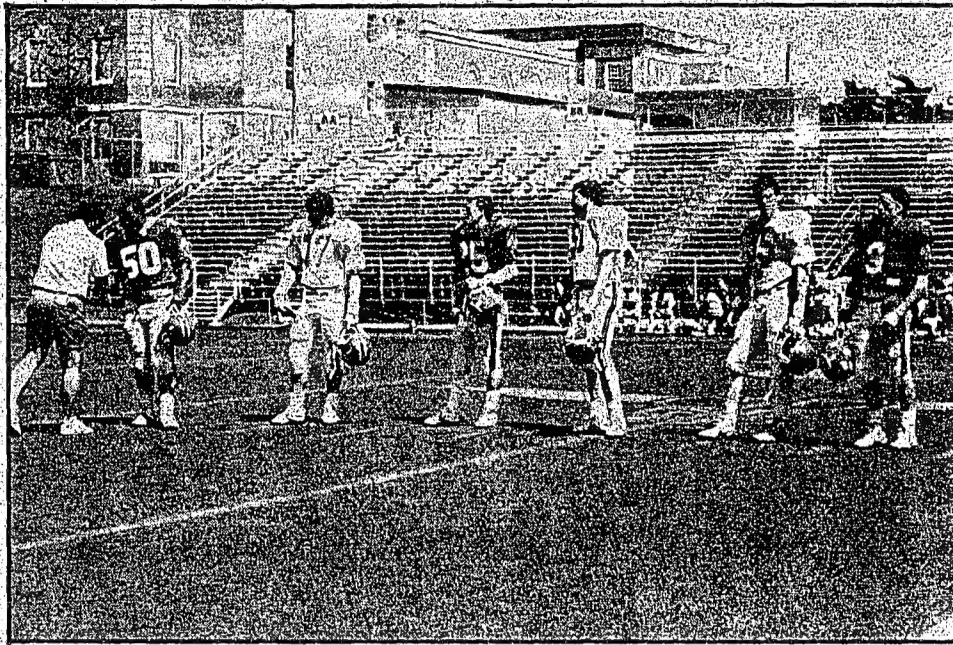


Photo by Akitoshi Kizaki

UNO Coach Sandy Buda hands out the Leo E. Pearey award to the players who have shown the most improvement in spring drills. From left: Buda, offensive tackle Art Thirus; running back Jeff Podraza; defensive back Jim Stenger; defensive tackle Scott Mars; linebacker Mike McDonnell; and wide receiver Tim Williamson.

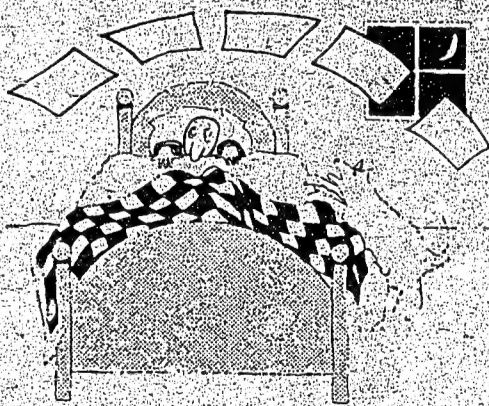
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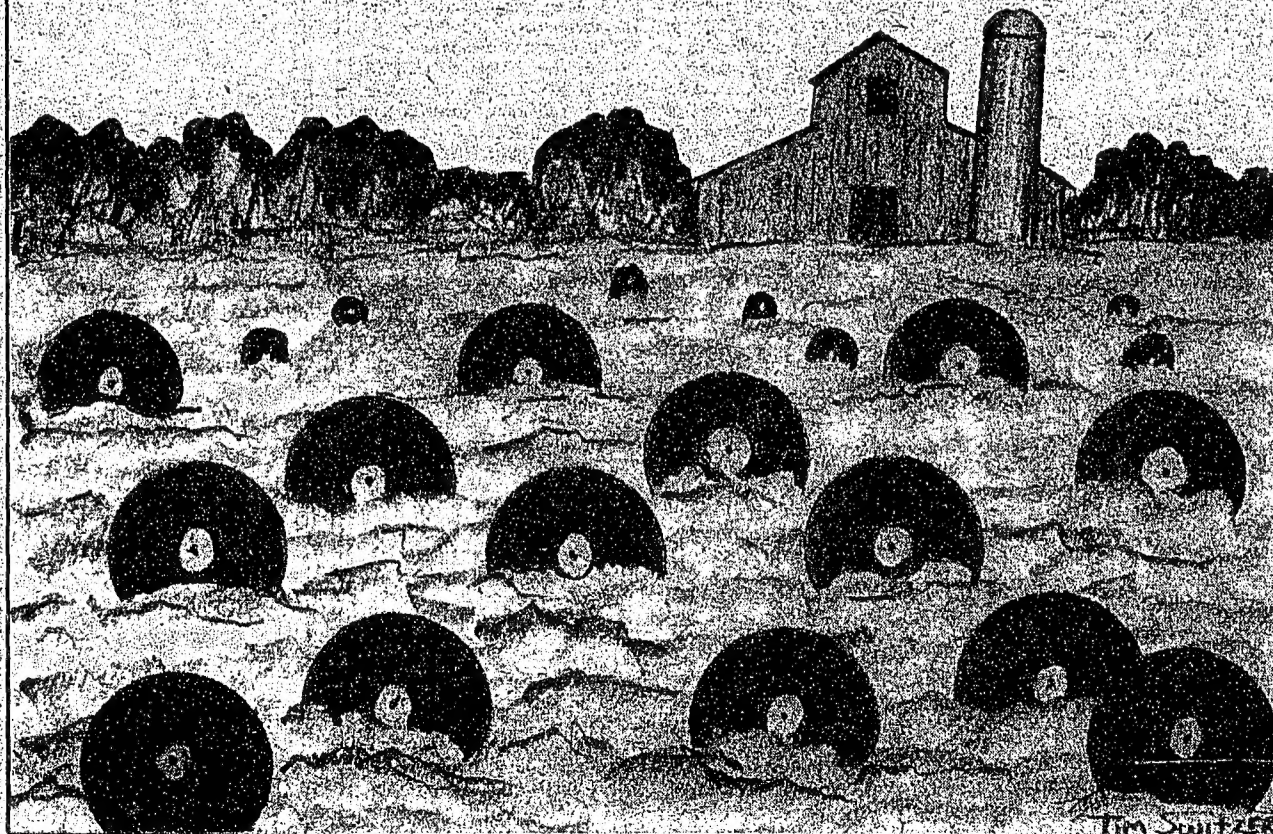
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